

A NEW PITCAIRNIA FROM VENEZUELA

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54a. PITCAIRNIA STEYERMARKII L. B. Smith, sp. nov. A *P. schultzei* Harms, cui affinis, foliorum interiorum laminis sublinearibus ad basin versus vix angustatis apice longissime filiformeque attenuatis, scapi bracteis subfoliaceis internodia superantibus, sepalis late rotundatis apiculatisque, petalis aurantiacis.

PLANT (immature) flowering 7 dm high. LEAVES fasciculate, (hanging,) dimorphic, the outer reduced to broadly ovate dark castaneous appressed-lepidote sheaths, the inner blades sublinear, recurved-serrulate and scarcely narrowed toward base, very long filiform-caudate, over 7 dm long, 3-10 mm wide, pale-lepidote beneath. SCAPE (immature) erect, salmon red, sparsely and finely pale-lepidote; scape-bracts strict, linear-lanceolate, filiform-attenuate, exceeding the internodes. INFLORESCENCE simple, lax, 2 dm long, sparsely white-flocculose. FLORAL BRACTS suberect, like the upper scape-bracts, exceeding the flowers; pedicels to 10 mm long, salmon-vermilion like the sepals. SEPALS oblong-lanceolate, broadly rounded and apiculate, 17 mm long, 6 mm wide, lepidote on base and midrib; petals lance-elliptic, subacute, apparently naked, 18-20 mm long, orange; ovules not observed. Pl. 1.

VENEZUELA: FALCON: Parque Nacional Morrocoy: Distrito Silva: southern shore of Golfete de Guare, southwest of Chichiriviche, west of La Cueva de Los Indios, 10° 54-55' N, 68° 17-19' W, 1-3 m alt., at the foot of northern calcareous cliffs, 4 September 1982, Julian A. Steyermark & Inigo Narbaiza 126510 (US, holotype; VEN, isotype).

It is quite appropriate that this species should be named for Julian Steyermark whose observations of fresh material provided much of the data for the description. He has given special attention to bromeliads for well over forty years.

Plate 1



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Pitcairnia steyermarkii L. B. Smith
In 1917, the author, L. B. Smith, discovered this plant in the
Andes of Peru, near the town of Tarma. It is a very rare
species, and is now being introduced into the United States
for cultivation. The plant is a member of the family
Bromeliaceae, and is characterized by its large, dense,<
and somewhat tangled structure. The leaves are long,
narrow, and pointed at the tip. The flowers are small,
and are borne in a dense, rounded mass at the top of the
plant. The plant is a native of the Andes of Peru, and
is now being introduced into the United States for
cultivation. The author, L. B. Smith, is a botanist,
and is now residing in the United States.

Pitcairnia steyermarkii L. B. Smith